20001021.ba v03_n014.bam.20001021

>From ???@??? Sat Oct 21 13:07:24 2000 -0500
Date: Sat, 21 Oct 2000 13:04:38 CDT
From: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: BOATANCHORS digest 3014
Message-Id: <20001021180541.D74652B2@devel43.theporch.com>

BOATANCHORS Digest 3014

Topics covered in this issue include:

1) Re: AM radio Hi Fi
    by "P. Rovero & Family" <provero@home.com>
2) RE: AM radio Hi Fi
    by polepeeg@aa4rm.ba-watch.org (Marty's Refl. Drop)
3) Re: SX-28 versus SX-28A
    by "A. B. Bonds" <ab@vuse.vanderbilt.edu>
4) the TX-1 looking for a good home.--> the sequel
    by john <johnmb@mindspring.com>
5) Re: 20's QSL Card
    by James Hanlon <knjhanlon@uswest.net>
6) Re: AM radio Hi Fi
    by James Hanlon <knjhanlon@uswest.net>
7) Re: SX-28 versus SX-28A
    by James Hanlon <knjhanlon@uswest.net>
8) Eddystone & Radar set
    by BEN NOCK <G4BXD@compuserve.com>
9) Re: SX-28 versus SX-28A
    by "A. B. Bonds" <ab@vuse.vanderbilt.edu>
10) Re: SX-28 versus SX-28A
    by Hank van Cleef <vancleef@adic.com>
11) Meissner Analyst model 9-1040
    by Robert Vincent <rvi3489u@postoffice.uri.edu>
12) Re: 20's QSL Card
    by Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
13) Re: SX-28 versus SX-28A
    by Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
14) Soldering braid, a new twist
    by Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
15) 20's QSL card
    by "Arthur I. Larky" <ail0@lehigh.edu>
16) Re: 20's QSL card
    by Richard Loken <richardlo@devax.admin.athabascau.ca>
17) Re: Soldering braid, a new twist
    by "Tom R. Rice" <tomrrice@earthlink.net>
18) tapetone 6Mtr_Conv.

by Ed Zeranski <ezeran@concentric.net>
19) RE: '20's QSL Card
by "Bill Hawkins" <bill@iaxs.net>
20) Item of interest
by Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
21) Odd straight key
by "James C. Garland" <4cx250b@miavx1.acs.muohio.edu>
22) RE: 20's QSL Card
by "Christopher A.Bowne" <radiobwn@riconnect.com>
23) 6146? & USS COLE fund
by "w2tu" <w2tu@email.msn.com>
24) Re: AM radio Hi Fi
by Hank van Cleef <vancleef@adic.com>
25) Re: Odd straight key
by "Mike Feher" <n4fs@monmouth.com>

Message-ID: <39F0250E.D5C63E74@home.com>
Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 06:57:18 -0400
From: "P. Rovero & Family" <provero@home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
CC: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: AM radio Hi Fi
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Have a Voice of Music Vm-1432 AM/SW Tuner (no audio amp).
Nice broad selectivity, sounds great. Audio comes straight
off the diode detector, kind of like the R-390 diode load.

"Shriver, John" wrote:

> Another AM tuner like this is the Heathkit BC-1A. It's in the same homely
> gold case as the FM-3B tuner, to go along with the WA-P2 preamp for the
> Williamson amps.

Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 07:01:50 -0400
From: polepeeg@aa4rm.ba-watch.org (Marty's Refl. Drop)
Message-Id: <200010201101.HAA10403@aa4rm.ba-watch.org.>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: RE: AM radio Hi Fi

Miller made a coil set to work with a 4-gang tuning cap. There
was one RFA in the ckt. which had a coil-pair at it's input and
output. The coil-pairs were coupled by "mutual coupling" coils.

After RFA output came another pentode that coupled to a f-w
diode detector thru a "broadband xfrmr." AVC developed there
as well as audio.

very flat 20kc passband that way. Might have been ultimate AM set.

I found one once. H. Gernsbach's kid wrote an art'l on it in 1951
Radio News & tacked a G. F. N. Williamson 807 amp on it's @$$ end.
Tracking it's history & origins (tuner went back to '37) was FUN.
Miller in LA was HUGE HELP too.

That may have been 1st time Williamson amp. turned up in US lit.

Only AM music here I like is Country pioneer 1kw stn. 12 mi. out on 1160
(Jimmy Rogers, Earl Scruggs, Maybel Carter, singing brakeman, etc.) Use
a MK484 & loop ant to rcv. it & null 1190 10kw bible-smasher 1 mi away.

MK484 chip is vy worthwhile hi-fi AM subject.

Marty

...hey wasn't Moto AM/PM(fm) stereo fun while it lasted? 1190 used it
& played Classical, Julie London, & klesmer 'til rural JC-view took
over.

Message-Id: <3.0.1.32.20001020090545.011ecb90@vuse.vanderbilt.edu>
Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 09:05:45 -0500
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: "A. B. Bonds" <ab@vuse.vanderbilt.edu>
Subject: Re: SX-28 versus SX-28A
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 01:51 AM 10/20/2000 +0000, you wrote:
>Hi anchorites.......
>
>How do you tell the difference between an SX-28 and SX-28A??
>
There is a lot of misinformation on this issue.

Bottom line: The only way to do a firm ID is to examine the RF box. The
SX-28 has round cardboard (or phenolic) coil forms about 1/2" diameter,
with threaded brass rods to tune the slugs. The SX-28A has rectangular
bakelite coil forms with slots in the ferrite slugs for tuning. Nothing
else is consistently different between the models.

Since the RF box is arranged differently on the two models, you will need
the correct diagram to do the alignment. The circuitry is identical so far
as I have been able to tell.

73   A. B. Bonds

Message-Id: <3.0.3.32.20001020105524.006c4e0c@mindspring.com>
Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 10:55:24 -0400
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: john <johnmb@mindspring.com>
Subject: the TX-1 looking for a good home.--> the sequel
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

....I have to apologize to list folk that were interested in this.

When the fellow who owned the piece approached me, he said
all he was looking for in return, was to find it a good home.

Now he must have discovered E-Pay, as "nearly free" has become
three figures.

Sigh......

I apoligize to those who may be disappointed. I assure you I have
no interest in this, other than trying to get it a good home. Im sorry
the tune has changed.

Sheepishly
John

Message-ID: <39F0825D.49EE3158@uswest.net>
Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 11:35:25 -0600
From: James Hanlon <knjhanlon@uswest.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: 20's QSL Card
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Here's my try at a translation.

Jim, W8KGI

"Ur Sigs were R[7] when I snagged U at [7:45A] M.E.S.T. with

a nasty
[ac]."
Your signals were S-7 here at 7:45 am, E.S.T. with ac hum.

" The uxer hr is a low life UX-210 Heartless coilet with a 3 score and 6 crock super
slop over chem."

The transmitter here is a UX-210 (audio triode, 10 type tube) self controlled Hartley oscillator with an electrolytic chemical rectifier.

" The scroller is a smell detective and 2 lamper with a pair of
cracking cord fones."

The receiver is a regenerative detector and two tube audio amplifier with a pair of headphones with cracks in the insulation on the leads.

" The uxing wire is a Hurt's (BCL) which clings to a sky hook 40 meters high."

The transmitting antenna is a Hertz (dipole fed in the center with open wire transmission line), also used for the broadcast receiver, supported from a mast, or some other point, 40 meters high.

"A light is hung in the center to keep the wireworms off and amuse the neighborhood radio bugs."

Wireworms are worms that eat wire, what else? The neighborhood radio bugs are probably neighborhood broadcast listeners.

" A separate scrooling wire is used."

A separate receiving antenna is used.

"Also a high powered log system is kept of all Qso's. The set is located in
the basement well protected fm flying glass and any stray corks."

Pretty self explanatory. Maybe the flying glass and corks come from stray wine bottles tossed at the operator because of interference to broadcast radio sets.

" Sububacacious equipment, 1 can of key oil, 1 Holey panel,
1 Relay which never really
relayed. I junked Crapola BCL set, 1 Buggie Bug Key."

Additional equipment list. Don't we all use key oil? Homebrew gear of that era always had a few extra holes in the panel left over from previous incarnations of the gear. We still us relays. The list includes one junk and not very good broadcast band radio. And the last item is a Vibroplex or reasonable facsimile.

"The official clicker would appreciate a card fm you. All Qso's amd Rept's are verified"

Please QSL.

"DX [FM ALL US NC NQ]"

Wishing you DX. (I'm not sure about the NC and NQ, some kind of good wishes I suppose.

" See other side for extra bull."

See other side for more information.

Message-ID: <39F0833E.A82B1C18@uswest.net>
Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 11:39:11 -0600
From: James Hanlon <knjhanlon@uswest.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: AM radio Hi Fi
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I suspect the 10 kc notch filter in the Heath BC-1A is there to reject the heterodyne from another BC station carrier which is 10 kc away from the station you are listening to. It's not there because of any birdie associated with a superhet.

Jim, W8KGI

Message-ID: <39F0848C.3495C224@uswest.net>
Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 11:44:44 -0600
From: James Hanlon <knjhanlon@uswest.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: SX-28 versus SX-28A
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Let me quote from Chuck Dachis, Radios by Hallicrafters.

"The major differences between the two radios is the layout and type of components used in the R.F. section. A minor visible difference is the addition of an AC line fuse on the rear apron of the chassis of the 'A' model."

I can dig out more detail about the differences in the R.F. deck if you really need them, but the fuse should be a good identifying point.

Jim, W8KGI

Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 13:48:11 -0400
From: BEN NOCK <G4BXD@compuserve.com>
Subject: Eddystone & Radar set
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-ID: <200010201348_MC2-B7D4-3AD4@compuserve.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Type: text/plain;
      charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Disposition: inline

Hello all, =

Please have a look at the following:

Unusual Eddystone. www.qsl.net/g4bxd/g4bxd3
Ident a radar set ?   www.qsl.net/g4bxd/g4bxd12

cheers, Ben G4BXD.

Message-Id: <3.0.1.32.20001020125001.010a4820@vuse.vanderbilt.edu>
Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 12:50:01 -0500
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: "A. B. Bonds" <ab@vuse.vanderbilt.edu>
Subject: Re: SX-28 versus SX-28A

Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 11:44 AM 10/20/2000 -0600, you wrote:
>Let me quote from Chuck Dachis, Radios by Hallicrafters.
>
>"The major differences between the two radios is the layout
>and type of components used in the R.F. section. A minor
>visible difference is the addition of an AC line fuse on the
>rear apron of the chassis of the 'A' model."
>

I have a 28 with a rear apron fuse. Looks bone stock, from the installation (wire routing, etc). I would not consider this characteristic definitive.

A. B. Bonds

From: Hank van Cleef <vancleef@adic.com>
Message-Id: <200010201826.MAA01100@catalina.emass.com>
Subject: Re: SX-28 versus SX-28A
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 12:26:39 -0600 (MDT)
Cc: boatanchors@theporch.com (Old Tube Radios)
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

As Dave Hollander discourses
>
> Hi anchorites.......
>
> How do you tell the difference between an SX-28 and SX-28A??
>

The SX-28A has coil boxes with bakelite forms, whereas the 28 has paper base phenolic forms. On the 28A, the coil boxes are supposedly removable without too much effort.

Other changes, such as replacement of one 6SK7 RF amplifier with an 1852 (as I recall) and addition of a fuse were modifications that could be (and often were) made in the field.

Hank

Message-ID: <39F06AFD.34D9@postoffice.uri.edu>
Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 15:55:41 +0000
From: Robert Vincent <rvi3489u@postoffice.uri.edu>

MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Meissner Analyst model 9-1040
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I just received an original manual for Meissner Signal Analyst model No 9-1040, It seems that someone recently was looking for a copy, if so Please get in touch with me and I would be glad to make one for you
Rob, ...K1DFT

Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 12:51:52 -0700
From: Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
Subject: Re: 20's QSL Card
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id: <0G2Q00MZ8VDPD9@mta3.snfc21.pbi.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Jim and all;

> ....The transmitter here is a UX-210 (audio triode, 10 type
> tube) ....

Will someone please tell me what an "audio triode" is????

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net

Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 12:58:01 -0700
From: Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
Subject: Re: SX-28 versus SX-28A
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id: <0G2Q00MZWVE9D9@mta3.snfc21.pbi.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Let's don't forget about the front panel identity problem. My '28 says "SX-28" on the front panel but the RF compartment has the bakelite form powdered iron slug tuned coils. Also a fuse on rear panel. So I guess mine is an "A".

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net

Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 13:58:27 -0700
From: Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
Subject: Soldering braid, a new twist
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id: <0G2Q0013FY29RV@mta2.snfc21.pbi.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Members of the 60/40 Club;

I dropped by the local electronics emporium this morning to see if I could obtain some desoldering braid of the wider than usual variety for desoldering the large terminals that populate our boatanchors. Having rescued from a flea market an ignored roll of larger width Soldr-Wik (R) in the past I knew this is the way I wanted to go, particularly when rebuilding big ol' RF abnd IF cans, not wanting to damage the coil terminals that are swaged onto the fragile paper cores. Well, I ran out of braid a long time ago and I'm presently overhauling two IF cans where the leads need to be replaced because of embrittlement of the insulation. It takes too many inches of braid and too many retries to remove all of the solder when using the normally available narrow stuff and terminals suffer considrably. A jerk from a desoldering pump is all that is needed to rip a terminal off.

I was greeted by the usual wall full of hooks that were half populated with what's left of the stock the store hasn't gotten around to reordering. Again, what I wanted wasn't there. After the blood pressure started back down I started devising plan B. I've tried braid in the past with poor results. That's because the braid is exposed to the air and has a fine coat of oxide making it difficult to wet. It doesn't work well as desoldring braid unless you can happen on a roll that hasn't been laying around in stock for a long time since being manufactured. Fat chance. I once had some success using braid stripped from coax. The braid in coax is protected from oxidation somewhat by the outer vinyl jacket and if I purchase some it will most likely be fresh stock because coax moves fairly rapidly. I asked for three feet of RG-58 (no suffix letter), the cheaper variety with a solid center conductor. They had some in stock with tin plated braid although I was expecting plain copper braid. I headed back to the 'lab' thinking about how I would use the braid.

Getting the vinyl jacket off of the coax is always a pain in the fantail but on examing an inch of stripped cable I decided to try the old trick of pullingt the center conductor out first. I clamped the end of the center conductor in my bench vice and with only three feet of coax the outer jacket and braid came off easily. The next step was to pull the braid out of the jacket. But WAIT!! If I leave the braid INSIDE the jacket I will retain some measure of protection against corrosion and oxidation. I only need to pull out an inch or so at a time. Ah, the sophistication of simplicity! I buttered up the inch of braid projecting from the end of the jacket with paste solder flux (Kester SP-44) and attacked the IF can terminal. One quick gulp and all of the solder disappeared from the terminal. Yep, necessity is the mother of invention. Too bad motherhood doesn't get much respect these days.

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net

Message-ID: <39F0B535.D5CDE5F9@lehigh.edu>
Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 17:12:22 -0400
From: "Arthur I. Larky" <ail0@lehigh.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: 20's QSL card
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

"Crapola" - sounds to me like "RADIOLA" a Victor/RCA trade name.
Art K3HBA

Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 15:43:53 -0600 (MDT)
From: Richard Loken <richardlo@devax.admin.athabascau.ca>
Subject: Re: 20's QSL card
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Cc: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id:
 <Pine.PMDF.3.95.1001020153039.541076702E-100000@devax.admin.athabascau.ca>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

re: crapola as an analogue to radiola.

In my circles crapola is slang word for, well... crapola but I did not know its use extended back 80 years or more.

It is interesting just how full of slang that QSL card is and how much of it is rather negative. I would like to know how much of society (since ham operators presumably came from all social levels) would have considored that to be a polite form of speech.

idiomatic speech is so interesting. Look at how Robert Heilein portrayed his characters as opposed to Isaac Asimov, i.e. N.E. USA 40's working class vs. N.E. USA 40's middle class.

Richard Loken VE6BSV, Systems Programmer - VMS
Athabasca University
Athabasca, Alberta Canada
** richardlo@admin.athabascau.ca **

Message-ID: <00a301c03aea$9e104ac0$ad8cf5d1@tomrrice>
From: "Tom R. Rice" <tomrrice@earthlink.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Soldering braid, a new twist
Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 15:26:49 -0700
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Yes, indeed! When I first came to Silicon Valley, Soder-Wik hadn't been invented. What we used was ordinary tinned braid, as sold on spools by Belden and others. If you dipped a piece of braid into a jar of liquid flux (non-corrosive, of course) and applied it with a hot iron to the filled lug (or whatever), you could suck out a great gob of solder every time. Frankly, I think this works better than the manufactured wick even for the mini ckts of today, as the 'sucking out' action happens sooner; you don't have to wait for the dry flux powder to heat up and melt first., thus less heating of tender components. Just try not to tip over the jar of flux........

73 de WB6BYH

Message-Id: <4.2.0.58.20001020183511.009ca720@pop3.concentric.net>
Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 18:38:40 -0700
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: Ed Zeranski <ezeran@concentric.net>
Subject: tapetone 6Mtr_Conv.
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Have been gone for a long time. Anyone have info on Tapetone 6Mtr converters??

From: "Bill Hawkins" <bill@iaxs.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: RE: '20's QSL Card
Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 23:42:44 -0500
Message-ID: <002001c03b19$5aca4340$290aa8c0@darius>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Anybody tried asking Boatanchor Bob, NA4G, about this?

Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2000 23:34:54 -0700
From: Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
Subject: Item of interest
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id: <0G2R007GPOWKZJ@mta4.snfc21.pbi.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Eimac SSB tube information, 1955:

<http://cgi.ebay.com/aw-cgi/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=470591418>

Arden Allen   KB6NAX   Vallejo, CA   gumbear@pacbell.net

Message-Id: <4.2.0.58.20001021080222.00a62828@miavx1.muohio.edu>
Date: Sat, 21 Oct 2000 08:14:13 -0400
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: "James C. Garland" <4cx250b@miavx1.acs.muohio.edu>
Subject: Odd straight key
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Hi Gang,
A friend gave me an old military or commercial key, and I wonder if anybody knows what it is? It is marked "BRELCO NY" on top and has a metal label marked CAQZ-26026, NXsr-60008, s/n 3814. I'm not a key collector, and this may be as common as dirt, but I haven't seen one before. I posted a snapshot of it at: http://www.muohio.edu/~4cx250b/key.jpg
Thanks very much.
73,
Jim W8ZR

Message-ID: <01C03B3A.945DEFA0@dial45.pm3-v90.mystic.riconnect.com>
From: "Christopher A.Bowne" <radiobwn@riconnect.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Cc: "'boatanchors@theporch.com'" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: RE: 20's QSL Card
Date: Sat, 21 Oct 2000 08:40:30 -0400

"The set is located in
the basement well protected fm flying glass and any stray
corks."

 - This may actually be a veiled reference to something else besides radios that the OM was "homebrewing" ! Remember, this card was written during the Prohibition era - there was a lot of the real homebrew being made - I believe that our ham radio "homebrew" description for homemade gear probably was adopted fom the popular jargon of the time. My grandfather was a basement homebrewer of the non-radio type and apparently, if the brew was a little too potent, bottles would actually erupt, blow their corks, and occassionally explode, sometimes in a sort of chain reaction.

73,

Chris Bowne, AJ1G
Stonington, CT
radiobwn@riconnect.com
AMI No. 211

Message-ID: <004901c03b69$fd7545e0$9a58143f@default>
From: "w2tu" <w2tu@email.msn.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: 6146? & USS COLE fund
Date: Sat, 21 Oct 2000 10:19:49 -0400

Hi all:
    First, the tube question. In getting the radio room ready for the Buffalo winter (back to normal they say!) I found some tubes which were evidently spares for the Sonar amps. The 4-400A's definitly won't fit in the ts870 but I would like to use the 6146's as spares. How do the JAN-6146 compare to the 6146B the 870s uses? Any change in operating parameters needed?
    The USS THE SULLIVANS DD537/DDG68Association is organizing a fund for the USS COLE sailors. For details see my website:
http://www.geocities.com/~dd537 The "Happenings" page. It seems the USS THE SULLIVANS DDG68 was refueled in Yemen only days before the COLE. Thanks for your attention.

Paul B. W2TU/NNN0GNB

From: Hank van Cleef <vancleef@adic.com>
Message-Id: <200010211616.KAA01885@catalina.emass.com>

Subject: Re: AM radio Hi Fi
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Date: Sat, 21 Oct 2000 10:16:38 -0600 (MDT)
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I see some interesting discussions here of broadband AM broadcast band receivers. There were several of these made in the US in the 1935-55 period. Terman describes one in some detail in the 2nd edition of "Radio Engineering." I have two examples here: a 1949 Magnavox console with a CR-204 AM-FM tuner chassis, and a Pilot "Pilotuner" preamp with AM-FM tuner and phono preamp from 1954. Don't have a model no. on the Pilot unit, as it is not on the front panel, and is sitting here under a small amplifier, lamp, and other stuff, so I can't turn it around very easily.

Both units have 3-coil IF's, with a front panel switch to cut in the overcoupling coil. The Magnavox has a 10Khz whistle filter in the audio chain. This is to mute out adjacent channel whistles. The Magnavox has two IF stages (three double-tuned transformers) on AM. The AM audio detector is half-wave, but AVC is developed from a separate circuit that taps off the plate side of the last IF through 100 pf. to another diode. With two 6SG7's in the IF, AVC on strong signals can run up to 15-17 volts of bias. The unit has an amplifier section identified as "AVC amplifier" but this tube's function is to reduce B+ to the 6U5 eye tube on weak signals to increase eye tube sensitivity. The Pilot unit is a bit more straightforward, cutting out the second IF for AM, and using a conventional detector/AVC setup. The Pilot unit has a signal strength meter that is a zero center movement and used as an FM centering meter. Both units use limiter/discriminator FM detection. Other sets that come to mind that have wide AM capability are the Farnsworth Capehart, the Hallicrafters SX-28 and S-27/36 lines, and the Hammarlund SP's. The SP-200 differs from other setups in that the spacing of the IF coils was mechanically adjustable from the front panel, so that coil coupling could be varied.

There were also several lesser known tuners and receivers, generally made by New York City area manufacturers and sold as "WQXR" receivers, to capture the wide bandwidth transmitted by that station on live performances. Several of these were series filament AC-DC setups, because much of Manhattan was a 110 volt DC Edison area. Most of these setups were capabable of passing 12-15 Khz. of audio right into the audio amplifier section. The Hallicrafters setups (I measured an S-36A) were good for about 13 Khz, but with a slow rolloff---I was seeing 19khz. FM stereo pilot in the speaker output of an S-36A. In earlier FM sets, the de-emphasis was at about 115 microseconds; these have to be changed for current use.

Widening the bandpass of IF transformers can be done by several means. Hanging resistor loads across the coils will lower Q, widening things up a bit (at the price of lost amplification). I also recall several articles in the '50's about heating the coil forms and sliding the coils closer together, which I think is a bit difficult to do and likely to be imprecise. Much easier is to add a few Pf. of coupling cap between the hot (plate and grid) ends of the coils. Measuring the effects of such changes is not what I'd call "simple" unless you are prepared to do it. Q meter measurements of the coils alone, and the coils in series-aiding and series-opposing connection can be used to calculate coupling and theoretical bandpass. More direct is to have a sweep oscillator setup and scope, where you can actually see the shape of the bandpass curve. For 455 Khz +/- 10Khz, this is difficult to do directly, and a BFO setup using something like a Measurements 111 crystal oscillator and a sweep oscillator centered on about 10.45 Mhz. is easier to conjure up, though a bit difficult to set up accurately. The Measurements oscillator has a detector built in for this purpose.

My question about going through an exercise like this today would be to ask: what signals do you plan to receive with it? Nowadays, there are tons of RFI producers, and I don't find AM usable in my apartment because of RFI problems. Also, AM in the US has become pretty much talk radio, and both the AM and FM broadcast bands are full of over-compressed and badly-clipped signals. AM is also now subject to frequency limiting at 10 Khz, which it was not in the 30's, 40's, and 50's. A good broadband receiver can't really do much with a degraded signal except pass it.

As an aside, I noticed that the Magnavox tuner circuit was fairly close in design to the Hallicrafters S-40, on paper. The execution in metal and wire has some details that are much fancier than Hallicrafters. Of course, the Magnavox wasn't intended for amateur radio use, and cost several times what the S-40 sold for, although it also had things like a big cabinet, four loudspeakers, a hefty audio amp (20 watts), FM, and a phono. You could, I suppose, put Magnavox IF transformers on an S-40 chassis and get some results, but I think that, for the most part, studies like these are pretty much paper exercises and more of historical interest. Also, a Magnavox console, restored, makes a pretty good FM listener, and I use mine for that.

Hank

Message-ID: <00e501c03b89$3b38a420$378abd18@n4fs>
From: "Mike Feher" <n4fs@monmouth.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Subject: Re: Odd straight key
Date: Sat, 21 Oct 2000 14:03:33 -0400
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Jim -

That key was used with the Navy's WWII TBX transmitter/receiver unit. The holes lined up, and, locked into, studs on top of the unit. 73 - Mike

Mike B. Feher, N4FS
89 Arnold Blvd.
Howell NJ, 07731
(732) 901-9193

----- Original Message -----
From: "James C. Garland" <4cx250b@miavx1.acs.muohio.edu>
To: "Old Tube Radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 21, 2000 8:14 AM
Subject: Odd straight key

> Hi Gang,
> A friend gave me an old military or commercial key, and I wonder if
anybody
> knows what it is? It is marked "BRELCO NY" on top and has a metal label
> marked CAQZ-26026, NXsr-60008, s/n 3814. I'm not a key collector, and this
> may be as common as dirt, but I haven't seen one before. I posted a
> snapshot of it at: http://www.muohio.edu/~4cx250b/key.jpg
> Thanks very much.
> 73,
> Jim W8ZR
>
>
>

End of BOATANCHORS Digest 3014
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